

IN THE CLAIMS:

A status of all the claims of the present Application is presented below:

1-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) An illumination source comprising a linear tube having a continuous, non-uniform distribution of a luminescent substance disposed thereon to produce a non-uniform radiation intensity profile along a length of the linear tube.

21. (Previously Presented) The illumination source of Claim 20, the distribution having a greater density at opposite ends of the tube.

22. (Previously Presented) The illumination source of Claim 20, the tube having an increasing distribution density measured outwardly from a midpoint of the tube.

23. (Previously Presented) The illumination source of Claim 20, the tube having a non-linear distribution of the luminescent substance disposed thereon.

24. (Previously Presented) The illumination source of Claim 20, the tube having a generally constant distribution density about a midsection thereof.

25. (Currently Amended) An illumination source manufacturing method comprising forming a continuous, non-uniform distribution of a luminescent substance on a linear tube to produce a non-uniform radiation intensity profile along a length of the linear tube.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 25, wherein forming the distribution comprises forming the distribution having a greater density at opposite ends of the tube.

27. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 25, wherein forming the distribution comprises forming an increasing distribution density measured outwardly from a midpoint of the tube.

28. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 25, wherein forming the distribution comprises forming a non-linear distribution.

29. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 25, wherein forming the distribution comprises forming a generally constant distribution density about a midsection of the tube.

30-33. **(Canceled)**